Life Group Lesson - Week of 4/7

This lesson is based on Colossians 1:24-2:5

Highlight

When you read this passage you will note that it has a few repeated phrases.

- Highlight the "I _____" phrases of what Paul did.
- Highlight all words related to suffering.

Explain

In this portion of our study, we're intending to figure out Paul's meaning to his original audience, as well as those of us who read this today. **Remember, the Bible cannot mean what it never meant.**

What is the mystery Paul was willing to suffer to make known?

Apply

This is now the portion of our study where the rubber meets the road. While the text <u>CAN</u> <u>ONLY</u> have one meaning, there are several different ways it can apply to our lives today.

- Have you ever felt like Paul felt but for your own Life Group? Have you ever shared that with your group?
- Ask your group if they have ever carried a similar burden for someone else, maybe a lost spouse or a lost child.

Respond

According to Daniel Akin at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, "Observation + Interpretation, w/o Application = Constipation."

- Have each member of your group list someone that they are burdened for or should be burdened for who is either a believer or unbeliever.
- Close with a time of praying around the circle for that person.